

~~TOP SECRET~~

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16 November 1962

THE SITUATION IN CUBA

1. [redacted] no significant changes. The boxscore on IL-28s remains: 13 complete or being assembled and 20 additional crates at San Julian; 9 unopened fuselage crates at Holguin.

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2. [redacted] at Mayari Arriba, inland in the Oriente mountains, [redacted] the missile-related equipment we have seen there is similar to equipment at the Banes cruise-missile site. This suggests that Mayari Arriba is a supply and storage point, since the cruise missiles are for coastal defense.

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4. The Cubans have ~~not~~ made public Castro's five-page letter to U Thant warning that any further photographic flights will risk being shot down.

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5. There is no Soviet or Cuban confirmation of Western press reports that Mikoyan will return to New York today, but a big dinner given by the Soviet Ambassador looks like a farewell function.

6. A Soviet diplomat in Copenhagen sought out one of our embassy officials and revived the proposal that the US should pull missiles out of Turkey to get Soviet forces out of Cuba. The Soviet diplomat said he was expressing a personal opinion, and no other posts report any revival of this proposal.

7. Out of the 11 ships pulling Soviet missile installations out of Cuba, six ships with 35 missiles are en route to the Black Sea. Two ships with the other 7 missiles and three ships with associated equipment apparently are headed for the Baltic. There are 22 ships en route to Cuba, apparently with normal commercial cargoes.

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